

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): Material feed container for a thick-matter pump ~~(18)~~, having a lower container part ~~(38)~~ and a container top ~~(40)~~ releasably connected with the lower container part ~~(38)~~, having a two-part face wall ~~(22)~~, a rear wall ~~(28)~~, and two two-part side walls ~~(42)~~, in each instance, having a material feed opening ~~(64)~~ that points upward, delimited by a circumferential edge ~~(66, 68)~~, having two feed cylinder openings ~~(24)~~ disposed in the face wall ~~(22)~~, and having a tube switch ~~(34)~~ disposed in the container interior, which can be pivoted alternately in front of the feed cylinder openings ~~(24)~~ on the input side, and opens into a pressure pipe ~~(30)~~ on the output side, wherein the container top ~~(40)~~ has an upper face wall part ~~(44)~~ as well as upper side wall parts ~~(46)~~ that extend away from the former, with free ends ~~(48)~~, and ~~that~~ wherein the circumferential edge ~~(66, 68)~~ has a first edge part ~~(66)~~ forming an upper edge of the container top ~~(40)~~, and a second edge part ~~(68)~~ following the first edge part ~~(66)~~, on the lower container part ~~(38)~~.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 1, wherein the first edge part ~~(66)~~ aligns with the second edge part ~~(68)~~.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 1, wherein the lower container part ~~(38)~~ has the rear wall ~~(28)~~, a floor ~~(54)~~, a lower face wall part ~~(56)~~, and lower side wall parts ~~(58)~~ that drop towards the lower face wall part ~~(56)~~.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 3, wherein the upper face wall part ~~(44)~~ and the upper side wall parts ~~(46)~~ bear a first flange ~~(50)~~ on their lower edge, which is releasably connected with a complementary second flange ~~(60)~~ on the lower face wall part ~~(56)~~ and the lower side wall parts ~~(58)~~ of the lower container part ~~(38)~~.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 4, wherein a sealing means is disposed between the first flange ~~(50)~~ and the second flange ~~(60)~~.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 3, wherein the lower face wall part ~~(56)~~, the

rear wall †28†, the lower side wall parts †58† and/or the floor †54† consist of sheet metal, preferably of steel sheet.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 3, wherein the lower face wall part †56†, the rear wall †28†, the lower side wall parts †58† and/or the floor †54† consist at least partially of a light construction material.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 7, wherein the light construction material has a carbon-fiber-reinforced plastic and/or a fiberglass-reinforced plastic.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 7, wherein the light construction material is silicon carbide.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 7, wherein the light construction material is a metal foam, preferably with titanium components.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 7, wherein the light construction material carries a friction-wear-resistant and/or hard coating,

particularly from the material group of chrome, silicon carbide, or ceramic.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 3, wherein the feed cylinder openings (24) are disposed in the lower face wall part ~~(56)~~.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 1, wherein a support device for the tube switch ~~(34)~~ is mounted in the lower container part ~~(38)~~.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 1, wherein the lower container part ~~(38)~~ has pivot bearings for a stirrer mechanism.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 1, wherein the upper face wall part ~~(44)~~ and the upper side wall parts ~~(46)~~ consist of sheet metal, preferably of steel sheet.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 1, wherein the upper face wall part ~~(44)~~ and the upper side wall parts ~~(46)~~ consist of plastic.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 16, wherein the container top ~~(40)~~ is produced in one piece, as an injection-molded part.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 17, wherein the container top ~~(40)~~ has a contact bead for a lattice grid, facing the container interior.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 17, wherein the container top ~~(40)~~ has reinforcement strips ~~(52)~~ on the upper face wall part ~~(44)~~ and/or on the upper side wall parts ~~(46)~~.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 1, wherein the container top ~~(40)~~, particularly the upper face wall part ~~(44)~~ and/or the upper side wall parts ~~(46)~~, consist at least partially of a light construction material.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 20, wherein the light construction material has a carbon-fiber-reinforced plastic and/or a fiberglass-reinforced plastic.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 20, wherein the light construction material is silicon carbide.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 20, wherein the light construction material is a metal foam, preferably with titanium components.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 20, wherein the light construction material carries a friction-wear-resistant and/or hard coating, particularly from the material group of chrome, silicon carbide, or ceramic.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 3, wherein the lower container part ~~(38)~~ has contact elements ~~(74)~~ for a lattice grid, projecting beyond the lower face wall part ~~(56)~~.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 1, wherein the lower container part ~~(38)~~ has a rubber apron ~~(70)~~ forming the second edge part ~~(68)~~, which apron follows the rear wall ~~(28)~~ and segments of the side walls ~~(42)~~ that proceed from the rear wall ~~(28)~~.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 1, wherein the lower container part ~~(38)~~ and the container top ~~(40)~~ are connected with one another by means of screws ~~(62)~~.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 1, wherein a hinged lid ~~(108, 110)~~ for covering the material feed opening ~~(64)~~ is articulated onto the container top ~~(40)~~, on the upper face wall part ~~(44)~~.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 28, wherein the hinged lid ~~(110)~~ is produced from plastic and/or from a light construction material.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): Material feed container for a thick-matter pump ~~(18)~~, having a material feed opening ~~(64)~~ that points upward, having two feed cylinder openings ~~(24)~~ disposed in a container face wall ~~(22)~~, and having a tube switch ~~(34)~~ disposed in the container interior, which can be pivoted alternately in front of the feed cylinder openings ~~(24)~~ on the input side, and opens into a pressure pipe ~~(30)~~ on the output side, comprising a hinged lid ~~(110)~~ made of plastic and/or of a light construction material, for covering the material feed

opening $\langle 64 \rangle$, articulated onto a container wall, preferably the container face wall $\langle 22 \rangle$.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 30, wherein the hinged lid $\langle 110 \rangle$ is configured as a hollow plastic body having a first plastic shell $\langle 112 \rangle$ that faces the material feed opening $\langle 64 \rangle$, and a second plastic shell $\langle 114 \rangle$, preferably connected in one piece with the former, forming an upper lid part.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 31, wherein the first plastic shell $\langle 112 \rangle$ has a smooth surface that faces the material feed opening $\langle 64 \rangle$.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 31, wherein the second plastic shell $\langle 114 \rangle$ has reinforcement beads $\langle 116 \rangle$.

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 31, wherein the hinged lid $\langle 110 \rangle$ is produced in one piece, using a rotation casting method.

Claim 35 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 29, wherein the light construction material

has a carbon-fiber-reinforced plastic and/or a fiberglass-reinforced plastic.

Claim 36 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 29, wherein the light construction material is silicon carbide.

Claim 37 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 29, wherein the light construction material is a metal foam, preferably with titanium components.

Claim 38 (Previously Presented): Material feed container according to claim 35, wherein the light construction material bears a friction-wear-resistant and/or hard coating, particularly from the material group of chrome, silicon carbide, or ceramic.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 28, wherein the hinged lid ~~(110)~~ has handles ~~(120)~~ that are molded on, preferably in one piece.

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 28, wherein the hinged lid ~~(110)~~ has hooks ~~(110)~~, preferably molded on in one piece, for hooking in closure elements attached on a container wall.

Claim 41 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 28, wherein the hinged lid ~~(108, 110)~~ is connected with the container face wall ~~(22)~~ by means of at least one hinge ~~(106)~~ and at least one gas spring.

Claim 42 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 41, wherein the hinged lid ~~(108, 110)~~ has attachment means ~~(124)~~ for a rubber apron close to its side connected with the container face wall ~~(22)~~.

Claim 43 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 1, wherein an intermediate ring ~~(86)~~ is disposed in the feed cylinder openings ~~(24)~~, in each instance, the inner surface of which delimits a flow-through-channel ~~(88)~~ for the thick matter, and the outer mantle surface ~~(90)~~ of which bears at least one toe ~~(92)~~, whereby the container face wall ~~(22)~~ has at least one partially circumferential inner groove ~~(94)~~ in the feed cylinder opening ~~(24)~~, as well as at least one bayonet opening ~~(95)~~ running from an inner surface facing the container interior to the inner groove ~~(94)~~, for accommodating the toe ~~(92)~~, forming a bayonet closure.

Claim 44 (Currently Amended): Material feed container for a thick-matter pump ~~(18)~~, having a material feed opening ~~(64)~~ that points upward, having two feed cylinder openings ~~(24)~~ that extend through a container face wall ~~(22)~~, and having a tube switch ~~(34)~~ disposed in the container interior, which can be pivoted alternately in front of the feed cylinder openings ~~(24)~~ on the input side, and opens into a pressure pipe ~~(30)~~ on the output side, whereby an intermediate ring ~~(86)~~ is disposed in the feed cylinder openings ~~(24)~~, in each instance, the inner surface of which delimits a flow-through-channel ~~(88)~~ for the thick matter, wherein the outer mantle surface ~~(90)~~ of the intermediate ring ~~(86)~~ bears at least one toe ~~(92)~~, and ~~that~~ wherein the container face wall ~~(22)~~ has at least one partially circumferential inner groove ~~(94)~~ in every feed cylinder opening ~~(24)~~, as well as at least one bayonet opening ~~(95)~~ running from an inner surface facing the container interior to the inner groove ~~(94)~~, for accommodating the toe ~~(92)~~, forming a bayonet closure.

Claim 45 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim ~~43~~ 44, wherein a connector plate ~~(80)~~ for connecting feed cylinders ~~(26)~~ is affixed to the container outside on the container face wall ~~(22)~~, and ~~that~~ wherein the feed cylinder openings ~~(24)~~ extend through the connector plate ~~(80)~~.

Claim 46 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim ~~43~~ 44, wherein the intermediate ring ~~(86)~~ has at least two, preferably three toes ~~(92)~~, disposed at an equal angle distance from one another, on its outer mantle surface ~~(90)~~, and that wherein the feed cylinder opening ~~(24)~~ has a number of bayonet openings ~~(95)~~ that corresponds to the number of toes ~~(92)~~, which are also disposed at the same angle distance from one another..

Claim 47 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim ~~43~~ 44, wherein the inner groove ~~(94)~~ in the feed cylinder opening ~~(24)~~ is configured to be circumferential.

Claim 48 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim ~~43~~ 44, wherein a spectacle plate ~~(82)~~ having two spectacle plate openings ~~(84)~~ is releasably attached to the inner surface of the container face wall ~~(22)~~, whereby the spectacle plate openings ~~(84)~~ communicate with the feed cylinder openings ~~(24)~~, and whereby the delimitation surfaces of the spectacle plate openings ~~(84)~~ align with the delimitation surfaces of the flow-through-channels ~~(88)~~.

Claim 49 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 43 44, wherein at least one of the intermediate ring ~~(86)~~ and/or and the spectacle plate ~~(82)~~ ~~consist~~ comprises at least partially of a friction-wear-resistant light construction material.

Claim 50 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 49, wherein the light construction material ~~of~~ ~~the intermediate ring (86) and/or the spectacle plate (82)~~ has a carbon-fiber-reinforced plastic and/or a fiberglass-reinforced plastic.

Claim 51 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 49, wherein the light construction material ~~of~~ ~~the intermediate ring (86) and/or the spectacle plate (82)~~ is silicon carbide.

Claim 52 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 49, wherein the light construction material ~~of~~ ~~the intermediate ring (86) and/or the spectacle plate (82)~~ is a metal foam, preferably with titanium components.

Claim 53 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim 43 44, wherein the delimitation surfaces of at

least one of the flow-through-channels ~~(88)~~ and/or and the spectacle plate openings ~~(84)~~ are coated with a friction-wear-resistant layer ~~(89)~~, preferably of a hard metal or of a material from the material group of chrome, silicon carbide, or ceramic.

Claim 54 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim ~~43~~ 44, wherein the diameter of the flow-through-channel ~~(88)~~ narrows towards the container interior or towards the feed cylinder ~~(26)~~.

Claim 55 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim ~~43~~ 44, wherein the delimitation surfaces of the flow-through-channels ~~(88)~~ align with the inner surfaces of the feed cylinders ~~(26)~~.

Claim 56 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim ~~43~~ 44, wherein the intermediate ring ~~(86)~~ has at least one circumferential groove ~~(96)~~, offset axially relative to the toes ~~(92)~~, in its mantle surface ~~(90)~~, with a sealing ring ~~(98)~~ for contact against the container face wall ~~(22)~~ and/or the connector plate ~~(80)~~.

Claim 57 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim ~~43~~ 44, wherein the intermediate ring ~~(86)~~ has

a circumferential groove ~~(96)~~ on a face that faces the spectacle plate ~~(82)~~, with a sealing ring ~~(98)~~ that lies against the spectacle plate ~~(82)~~.

Claim 58 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim ~~43~~ 44, wherein the intermediate ring ~~(86)~~ has recesses ~~(100)~~ for the insertion of holder mandrels on a face that faces the spectacle plate ~~(82)~~.

Claim 59 (Currently Amended): Material feed container according to claim ~~43~~ 44, wherein a circumferential cavity ~~(102)~~ is disposed between the intermediate ring ~~(86)~~ and the container face wall ~~(22)~~, which cavity can be filled with lubricant by way of a feed opening ~~(104)~~, and increases in size when the intermediate ring ~~(86)~~ is pulled out of the feed cylinder opening ~~(24)~~.